

WE CLAIM:

1. A system for content management that automatically determines when a content page contains out of date content items as a result of changes made to the content items in a data source, the system comprising:

5 a template engine for executing templates to generate a content page, the template engine operative to generate a content page comprising content items selectively retrieved from a data source and arranged on the content page as defined by the template, each content item in the data source being associated with time stamp information to indicate the last time the content item was modified;

a dependency record for storing information regarding a relationship between content items that comprise the content page and the content items stored in the data source; and

10 dependency checking software for comparing information contained in the dependency record with time stamp information contained in the data source for each content item that comprises the content page, determining through the comparison those content pages that contain content items that have been modified in the data source, and instructing the  
15 template engine to re-generate a content page that contains modified content items.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein a plurality of dependency records are used to store the relationship between the content items that comprises the content page and the content items stored in the data source.

20 3. The system of claim 1, wherein the content page generated by the template engine comprises markup code.

4. The system of claim 3 wherein the markup code is HTML.

5. The system of claim 3 wherein the markup code is XML.



15. A method for determining when a content page contains out of date content items as a result of changes made to a template or content items stored in a data source, the method comprising:

generating a template to define the content items to be included in the content page and the arrangement of the content items on the content page;

executing the template with a template engine to generate the content page as defined by the template;

generating one or more dependency records to capture a relationship between the content items that comprise the content page, the template used to generate the content page, and the content items stored in the data source; and

comparing data contained in the dependency records with data contained in the data source to determine if the content page is out of date.

16. The method of claim 15 comprising generating dependency records to capture parameters passed to the template engine.

17. The method of claim 15 comprising generating dependency records to capture database reads made by the template engine.

18. The method of claim 15 comprising generating dependency records to capture queries made by the template engine.

19. The method of claim 15 comprising generating dependency records to capture sub-templates defined by the template and executed by the template engine.

20. The method of claim 15 comprising publishing the content page generated by the template engine to a disk.

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comparing the data contained in the dependency records with data contained in the data source to determine if the content page is out of date; and

regenerating the content page where the comparison step determines that the content page contains modified content items.

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